

U.S.A.
Committee on friendly relations among
foreigners at
Geneva

To The Filipino Students in the United States

Greeting and best wishes for
a Happy New Year

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1918



HONORABLE TEODORO YANGCO
Resident Commissioner of the Philippine Islands,
Washington, D. C.

ACCORDING to available data there are about 15,000 Filipinos in the United States. In my travels through the various states last year and this year, I have had the opportunity of acquainting myself with their mode of living, and it is a pleasure to state that many of them have done things which reflect as an honor to their country and to themselves.

As to be expected, there are those who should observe a better conduct and possess higher aims. To come to this country involves certain sacrifices. For this reason, we should strive to obtain the greatest benefits from the opportunities which lie within our hands and our achievements should be in proportion to what can be accomplished by such a large number of Filipinos now residing in this country. No one should forget the words of our great Rizal that success is the fruit of sacrifice; that our mother Philippines has a right to expect that every Filipino shall do his duty toward her. And his words have special significance to those who have had the opportunity of contact with new and greater horizons; that these when they return to the Islands shall translate into deeds the great and varied lessons that they have learned.

All and every one, within his respective sphere of action, has a duty to fulfill: To a number it devolves upon them to undertake a profitable study in their chosen professions and investigate the methods of attack employed by America in bringing about her unparalleled prosperity; to others, they are called upon to represent and protect the interest of the Islands in those matters which affect her. And to all, with no exception whatsoever, they owe a duty of preserving and promoting the good name of and respect for the Filipino people.

I take this opportunity to extend to all Filipinos in the United States my warm and hearty greetings and best wishes for a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

TEODORO R. YANGCO,

Resident Commissioner from the Philippine Islands.

GREETING

The Directory of Filipino students in the United States, published June 1st, 1917, by the Bureau of Insular Affairs, Washington, D. C., contains the name, home address, present address, course of study and school attended of 337 Filipino students. They are enrolled in 22 different states; the largest number is found in California where 70 are studying; Indiana and Illinois each have 52, Iowa 29 and New York 27. A wide range of studies is being pursued,—from banking and finance to a search for the microbe that is destroying animal life in the Islands.

Forty-three Filipino students are in High Schools; 85 are studying engineering and commerce; the number pursuing other courses is as follows: Medicine, 50; law, 53; agriculture, 22; dentistry, 5; theology, 7; military tactics, 7.

The Committee on Friendly Relations among Foreign Students located at 124 East 28th Street, New York City, is interested in the highest welfare of all students from the Philippine Islands. We desire that they shall be cordially welcomed in our schools, universities and homes. To this end, the Committee is arranging receptions and conferences to which students of all nationalities are invited as our guests.

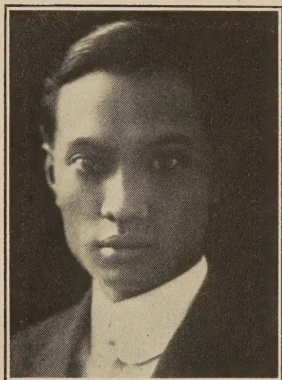
In printing and distributing this New Year's greeting the Committee expresses the hope that each Filipino student may enjoy a year of happiness and prosperity; we further desire that Filipino students shall feel free to write or consult us at any time regarding any matter that concerns their welfare. Perhaps this modest publication may be the forerunner of a regular magazine devoted to Filipino-American student interests.

On behalf of the Committee.

CHARLES D. HURREY,

General Secretary.

A CALL TO PATRIOTIC SERVICE.



In casting about for a subject to be presented in this pamphlet dedicated to the Filipino students in the States the story of the drifted seamen came forth vividly in my mind. Legend has it that as a result of a storm some sailors were found drifting on a raft. After several days of anxiety, they finally sighted a vessel and signaled for help. The reply came in the form of a question: "What do you want?" The thirsty seamen answered, "water." To this the response was, "Dip down where you are." Immediately, one of the suffering crew took a hand full of water and much to his surprise, he found that the water was sweet. They had drifted to the mouth of a river and were about to die of thirst in a sea of fresh water. This reminder fittingly pictures the peculiar situation in which our economic industries exist in the Philippines. For a long time our industrial leaders have been clamoring for capital, but they do not seem to understand that this mysterious energy will not be forthcoming unless they stoop down and get it. Much more salient is this with respect to the great ravages of rinderpest among our indispensable "carabao" and cattle. For the last eighteen years, our country has been asking for help while the Scientific Ocean round about us is rife with relief-giving aids. Our progressive young men cannot indeed stand placidly contemplating this state of affairs if they cherish an ideal of an independent and self-supporting Philippines. The time has come when the Filipino student upon casting about in the search for a university course should consider the material benefits he will be able to render his own native land. This great modern war has shown the imperative

necessity for specialization in medicine and engineering. Our political status has been greatly enhanced by the arduous and aggressive work of our political leaders. It is now time that we should also turn our attention to our economic development as a political independence is ironical without an independent manumission.

Up to the present time only a few Filipino students both in the States and in the Philippines have or are devoting their attention to the study of veterinary medicine. The reason for this is quite obvious since it is but within the last few years that this profession has been introduced into the islands. As far as I can determine, the honor of being the pioneer in this professional course among the Filipinos belongs to Dr. Victor Buencamino, who graduated from the New York State Veterinary College in 1911 and who is actually engaged in teaching in the University of the Philippines. To him belongs the credit of initiating the foundation of the veterinary profession in the islands.

Rinderpest which is synonymous to cattle plague, steppe murrain, contagious bovine typhus, etc., has been known since the very early times, and its destructive character has invariably been self-evident. In all the countries in which it has been introduced the economic condition of the nations affected has suffered great depression. The disease is supposed to have been found originally in Asia Minor. The great historic wars which from time to time overwhelmed the European continent ever since the invasion by the Huns are held as being responsible for its introduction into Europe and its rapid spread throughout the continent. The great losses in live-stock during these periodic invasions of this disease have been inconceivable as they reach to the sum of millions of dollars. From Asia it was introduced into Russia, from which country it spread all over Prussia, England, France, Austria, Holland, Italy, and Turkey. During the first two decades of the eighteenth century this plague was at the height of its vehemence. Holland lost almost all of her valuable live-stock and the entire loss of Europe in the years 1711-1714 amounted to one and one-half millions of cattle. In the fight against this disease, veterinary colleges

were founded and by diffusing the knowledge of veterinary medicine through the mass of the people and coupled with systematic measures for its prevention the whole European continent was saved from an impending famine. In 1890 the whole African continent became infected as a result of the invasion by the Italians into Egypt. Here, too, several million dollars worth of live-stock have been lost. The entire Asiatic continent is infected in an endemic form. The disease was introduced into Japan from Manchuria, where it is found up to the present time, and it found its entrance into the Philippine Islands in 1898 coincident with the American occupation. Before this time our live-stock was flourishing, and during the recent years our animals have been dying by the thousands so that our economic condition is now at its lowest ebb. For the last eighteen years our government has been spending great sums of money in the fight against this epizootic, and a great deal more will undoubtedly be required before any result can be attained. The establishment of the Veterinary department in the University of the Philippines is a good start for the solution of this great problem. It devolves upon our young men to devote their attention to this opportunity of acquiring the proper knowledge which they could afterwards apply in practice not only for their own benefit but for our country at large.

A. K. GOMEZ, D. V. M.,

Fellowship Student in Pathology and Bacteriology,
from the University of the Philippines.

NOTE:—In order to supply the great need of veterinary surgeons in the Philippine Islands Director Hernandez of the bureau of agriculture has petitioned the Philippine legislature for a grant of \$12,500 to found fifty scholarships. Mr. Hernandez, in presenting his recommendation, laid stress on the fact that the islands are not at present in position to combat the frequent outcropping of rinderpest, and said he felt that free scholarships would stimulate interest among young Filipino students in this profession.

OPEN LETTER TO THE FILIPINO STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES



Greetings: One of the most striking, not to say disappointing, features in the life of the Filipino students in America is the apparent lack of unity and solidarity among them. This is true, not only among our students as a whole, but what is still worse, as between those attending the same college or university and living in the same town or city. It has been my own experience to notice this fact, and not once or twice only I have been asked by some of my American friends for an explanation of this isolation and estrangement as they called it.

Two reasons, I venture to think, explain the anomalous, so to speak, situation. i. e., lack of unity and lack of co-operation.

It is no answer to the charge, the circumstance that we are scattered throughout the country, the instance being very unique to find in the same college or university enough students to organize in a representative official body. We are living in the Twentieth Century, and we see every day that natural barriers, space, and distance do not count any more as against the will power of man. Besides, we have before us the example of the Japanese, Chinese, Hindu and other foreign students all of whom, it may be said, labor under the same handicaps and nevertheless, they are organized, and through their official organizations no one fails to feel the immense influence they exercise in public sentiment and opinion throughout the states. Is there any reason why we shouldn't do the same thing?

To accomplish this unity and solidarity, and to the end that we might make our existence as a class felt and realized,

not only in the communities where we live, but throughout the country, it is imperative that we should organize ourselves nationally, with branches or local chapters in every college or University where enough students are found to form one, and once this is done, the next step should be the issue of a Filipino Student Magazine, as a means of promoting and furthering, not only our individual betterment and convenience, but the interests of our country as well. To the same end, I would suggest that periodically national and district conferences be held for the benefit of the students.

The narrow limits of an ordinary letter do not allow me to go into details as to the best method we could pursue in carrying into practice this proposition. I have stated enough, however, to give you a general idea of the proposed plan, and it is up to each and every one of us to co-operate to carry it into effect. Our resident Commissioners, Honorables Teodoro R. Yangco and Jayme de Veyra favor the idea and are strongly for it. What more assurances for success could we ask for?

Before closing, I wish to convey to my distinguished friend, Mr. Charles D. Hurrey, General Secretary of the "*Committee on Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students*," in my own name and in the name of every Filipino student, the testimony of our deepest appreciation for the keen interest he is constantly taking in our behalf. Through his efforts this "*Greeting Issue*" has been published, and his valuable work in connection with the foreign students is an open secret to every one.

Wishing to all and every one of you a Happy New Year,

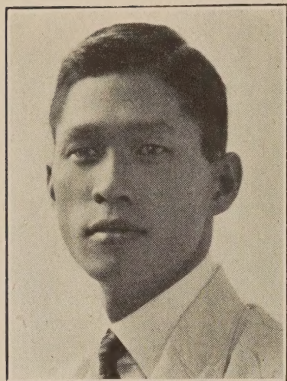
I am,

Cordially yours,

ALEJANDRO J. PANLILIO.

'18 Law—University of Michigan.

PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS.



Persons must know each other before they can be friends. If the American is ever indifferent to the Filipinos, it is because he does not know them well enough so that they can be friends. The majority of the people in this country still have the impression that the Filipinos are barbarians. The "New York Times," one of the most reliable papers in the country, printed some days ago a news article to the effect that the chiefs of the different Filipino *tribes* have pledged their loyalty to the U. S. Government in the present war. The word *tribe* pictures vividly in an inaccurate fashion the condition of the Filipinos,—that of being organized in tribal units, a condition that partakes of the nature of barbarism. The readers of the "Times" after going over the article cannot help but imagine the Philippines to be groping in a wild state, which is false.

Very few Americans would like to associate with uncivilized people as we are often times pictured to be. We cannot blame them for taking such an attitude. Men can profess friendship only toward their equals, but feel mercy toward their inferiors.

Only mutual understanding can promote our friendly relations with America. We have been associating with the Americans for nineteen years now, and we know them. But the Philippine Islands are such a small possession that the majority of the Americans do not take interest in their Oriental territory. Consequently they know little or nothing at all about the Filipinos, and their lack of sufficient knowledge about the natives constitutes the gulf that exists between the two peoples.

As long as the Americans remain ignorant of the true

condition in the Philippines so long will they believe that the Filipinos are uncivilized, and therefore, inferior to the Americans. And so long as the Filipinos are treated as an inferior race, hatred and not friendship shall predominate in their relationship.

It is, therefore, advisable that a publicity bureau be created, the task of which shall be that of disseminating the true state of affairs at home to counteract the vicious propaganda of some ill-meaning persons who, in their effort to thwart the growing sentiment for Philippine independence here and at home, have ruthlessly slandered the whole Filipino race by advertising it freely as a barbarous people. This bureau should work in co-ordination with the American press by providing it with correct data of the progress that the Islands are making in arts and sciences, in statecraft, in commerce and industry. Philippine clubs should be organized in this country the purpose of which should be to act as branches of the publicity bureau, and give out all the correct information about the true condition of the Philippines, especially to the capitalists, to business men, to the churchmen, to lecturers and to everybody. Let the Americans know what we are and not as we are falsely pictured to be. It is only through an honest mutual understanding and knowledge of each other that we can be friends.

GODOFREDO RIVERA.

College of Journalism, Columbia University.

THE IMPORTANCE OF STUDENT CONFERENCES.



Any student who reflects back to the time when effective system of education was still unknown in the schools and colleges, he will find that his ancestors had not had the same rare opportunities which now lie before him. He should, therefore, bear in mind that his accomplishments should be proportionately greater. But how often do we find students who either fail entirely in their studies or do a half-

completed work. The causes are many and varied, but a student who has a deep regard to the inherent duty which he owes to himself, to his parents, and to the community in which he lives, will not find himself astray in his way toward the goal he has set to reach.

The science of education is day by day improved. The student is not only assured of a thorough course which will fit him in the profession which he chooses to take but also of wholesome environments, that he may cultivate his character in a proper mood and train his power of observation. During the last few years, the gospels of education have gone one step further in promoting student welfare, especially his social culture, by the holding of student conferences. The student conference lastly held in Northfield, Mass., bore very fruitful results. Students from different parts of this country and different parts of the world gathered together and interchanged not only their individual ideas but information regarding their respective countries. Spirit of friendship and brotherhood reigned among the students, and persons who came to Northfield as strangers returned home as friends.

I am longing for the day when student conferences are introduced in the Philippine Islands. If a representative

student from Mindanao would meet a like one from the Batanes Islands, a more harmonious understanding and firmer unity would necessarily result in their friendly meeting.

Note: Batanes Islands lie in the northern part of the Philippines, and Mindanao in the South.

FERMIN FRANCISCO.

RIZAL ANNIVERSARY IN ST. LOUIS

A. Ramos

The Rizal anniversary was celebrated for the first time in St. Louis, Mo., on December 30, 1917. Selected Filipino talent from the various universities and colleges of the middle west made the elaborate program a great success.

The University of Chicago was represented by Mr. José G. Carrillo who made a hit with his selections from "Tosca" e "Pagliacci." The University of Missouri was represented by Mr. Vicente N. Mercado. Mr. E. B. Salud represented St. Louis University and Mr. S. de Austria represented Valparaiso University. The Strassberger Conservatory of Music was ably represented by Mr. M. D. Aquino who thrilled the audience with his brilliant mastery of the violin. The University of Michigan was represented by Mr. A. P. Racelis and the writer. The colleges of Illinois were represented by Mr. G. L. Fajardo.

This event has a significant meaning indicating a willingness on the part of the students of the middle west to work together and to co-operate in forming a national association of all Filipino students in this country.

The forming of the association in St. Louis was due to the untiring efforts of our distinguished friend Mr. A. P. Racelis, a graduate of the University of Michigan who received his A. M. in Forestry in 1917.

CHICAGO BANQUET

The Filipino Association of Chicago held its fifth annual banquet in commemoration of the twenty-first anniversary

of the death of the Filipino martyr and hero, Dr. José Rizal y Mercado, Sunday evening, December 30th, 1917, at Hotel Sherman.

The banquet was the most successful one held in the history of the Association. The program was a very interesting one consisting of speeches from several prominent men, such as the Very Reverend J. P. O'Mahoney, President of St. Viator College. His speech was very interesting and instructive, the title being, "Liberal Education in Professional Life."

The leading speaker, the Honorable Jaime C. de Veyra, Resident Commissioner from the Philippines, who was to talk upon Rizal's Life Abroad, was unable to be present on account of sickness, but sent a copy of his speech which was read by Mr. Van Meter, a very kind friend of the Association. He read the message in such a way that it was greatly appreciated by all, and very many lessons were learned of Rizal's Life Abroad by our young students who were present.

Mr. Charles D. Hurrey, General Secretary of the Committee on Friendly Relations among Foreign Students, gave us a very interesting and enlightening talk. It was short, but just to the point, in which we are all so interested. "A permanent home for the Filipinos in Chicago" was one of the most appreciated statements in his address at the banquet. One of the young men, Mr. E. Corpus, winner of the first oratorical contest held by the Association delivered an oration which surprised us all. He was presented with a beautiful medal as a memento of the occasion.

Short speeches were delivered by Professor Morgan of Loyola University who is well acquainted with Filipinos, and Mrs. Henson, one of our good friends.

Piano selections rendered by two of our students, Messrs. Valentin and del Rosario, who have studied some in that line, were splendid. Our string trio, composed of Messrs. Umali, Gonzales and Arfapo, rendered some splendid imitations of Hawaiian melodies.

Our soloist, Mr. J. Arfapo, who is a fine baritone, rendered a solo in a most pleasing manner.



OFFICERS OF THE FILIPINO ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

A. Marasigan, one of our coming violinists, rendered a very fine selection, accompanied by Miss Cornelia Nagle.

Mr. De Jesus, winner of the second honor of the Oratorical Contest, recited with deep feeling the "Last Thought of Rizal." Mr. Guevara, who won the honorable mention, took part also in the program.

The president acted as toastmaster and we all congratulate him as he did a great deal to make the banquet a success. It was the most enjoyable evening spent in the history of the Association. The program closed in a most charming manner with the Filipino National Hymn and the Star Spangled Banner.

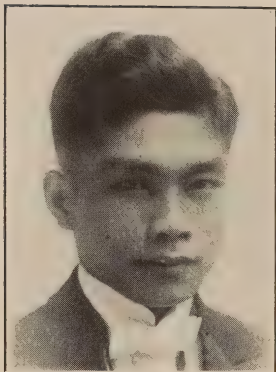
NOTE:—Owing to limitations of space, we are not able to print a report of the successful Rizal anniversary meetings in Brooklyn, San Francisco and other cities.—*Editor*.

THE FILIPINO ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO, INC.

“THE SOCIETY THAT SERVES”

Ciriaco Lallana, *President*

148 N. Ashland Blvd.



We, the Filipino residents in the City of Chicago, realizing the necessity of mutual co-operation and closer association among our people and appreciating the advantages to be derived from bringing about a better understanding in the United States of the conditions existing in the Philippines;—Organized and incorporated under an act of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, County of Cook—

the Filipino Association of Chicago, in April, 1917, whose motto is “Harmony and Equality” and whose objects are “to promote a brotherly relation among ourselves; to offer aid and protection to Filipinos that are in the United States; to advance the good behaviour and social conduct of its members; to work for a fair and truthful exposition of the relation between the Philippines and the citizens of the United States and to promote a true friendship between Americans and Filipinos.” We have to-day a very efficient Committee to carry on this work and to respond to each call for help.

The Association has a student and emergency Fund under supervision of its Officers and an Advisory Board. Eighteen students were aided through this fund since the date of incorporation.

An employment bureau has been established by the Association through which we have been able to place in positions thirty-nine students. Each year an increasing number of Filipino students are coming to various schools and colleges in the United States of America, an average of

sixty-five per cent of these students are earning their own way through college.

Chicago being the commercial center in the United States and containing many good schools, universities and colleges in every line of study, makes it easier for us to secure employment for our worthy and needy students. But there are times when positions can not be readily secured—and there are also times that after a position is secured it is necessary to give them financial aid until they are able to take care of themselves. This applies not only to the self supporting students but also to many of the students whose parents support them, but often times their allowances are delayed.

Like any human being we are also subject to get sick or meet with an accident, etc., so that we need assistance. Therefore, an organization and permanent Home is much needed to meet such pressing situations.

We are offering our good offices and services to carry on this valuable work without any hope of reward as we feel that we are fulfilling our duties by doing our small share in uplifting our fellow men when they most need it. We also feel that it is the duty of our friends and especially our people at home to assist us in our undertaking, in order that our Association may grow and prosper and take its rightful place among similar institutions.

NOTE:—Additional copies of this booklet may be secured by applying to the Secretary of the Committee on Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students, 124 East 28th Street, New York, and enclosing stamps to the amount of ten cents per copy, to cover cost of mailing.

